CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

A method to provide secure key selection comprising:
 transmitting a license containing a product key of a watercrypted content and a
 client identifier to a secure device for storage;

transmitting an entitlement control message containing a plurality of content keys associated with said watercrypted content to said secure device, together with a request to provide a session content key from said plurality of content keys, said session content key to be used to decrypt said watercrypted content; and

receiving said session content key from said secure device in response to said request.

- 2. The method according to claim 1, wherein said license is encrypted with a public key of said secure device to allow said secure device to access said license.
- 3. The method according to claim 1, wherein said license is encrypted with a secret key of said secure device to allow said secure device to access said license.
- The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
 establishing a secure channel to communicate securely with said secure device.
- 5. The method according to claim 4, wherein said establishing further comprises: encrypting a transport key with a personal public key; and

transmitting said transport key to said secure device.

- 6. The method according to claim 5, wherein said receiving further comprises: receiving said session content key encrypted with said transport key; and decrypting said session content key to be used in decrypting said watercrypted content.
- 7. The method according to claim 1, wherein said secure device is a smart card device.
- 8. The method according to claim 1, further comprising receiving said license from a content server which distributed said watercrypted content.
- 9. The method according to claim 1, further comprising receiving said license from an entity connected to a content server which distributed said watercrypted content, said entity storing said client identifier and being configured to encrypt said product key with a public key of said secure device.
- 10. The method according to claim 1, further comprising receiving said entitlement control message from a content server which distributed said watercrypted content.
- 11. A method to provide secure key selection comprising: storing a license containing a product key of a watercrypted content and a client identifier from a decoder;

receiving an entitlement control message containing a plurality of content keys associated with said watercrypted content from said decoder, together with a request to provide a session content key from said plurality of content keys, said session content key to be used to decrypt said watercrypted content;

selecting said session content key using said product key and said client identifier from said license; and

transmitting said session content key to said decoder in response to said request.

- 12. The method according to claim 11, wherein said license is encrypted with a personal public key to allow access to said license.
- 13. The method according to claim 12, further comprising decrypting said license using said personal public key.
- 14. The method according to claim 11, wherein said selecting further comprises: receiving a transport key encrypted with a public key of said decoder; and encrypting said session content key with said transport key.
- 15. The method according to claim 14, wherein said transmitting further comprises transmitting said session content key encrypted with said transport key to said decoder.
- 16. An apparatus to provide secure key selection comprising:

 means for transmitting a license containing a product key of a watercrypted content and a client identifier to a secure device for storage;

means for transmitting an entitlement control message containing a plurality of content keys associated with said watercrypted content to said secure device, together with a request to provide a session content key from said plurality of content keys, said session content key to be used to decrypt said watercrypted content; and

means for receiving said session content key from said secure device in response to said request.

- 17. The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said license is encrypted with a public key of said secure device to allow said secure device to access said license.
- 18. The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said license is encrypted with a secret key of said secure device to allow said secure device to access said license.
- 19. The apparatus according to claim 16, further comprising: means for establishing a secure channel to communicate securely with said secure device.
- 20. The apparatus according to claim 19, further comprising: means for encrypting a transport key with a personal public key; and means for transmitting said transport key to said secure device.
- 21. The apparatus according to claim 20, further comprising:

means for receiving said session content key encrypted with said transport key; and

means for decrypting said session content key to be used in decrypting said watercrypted content.

- 22. The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said secure device is a smart card device.
- 23. The apparatus according to claim 16, further comprising means for receiving said license from a content server which distributed said watercrypted content.
- 24. The apparatus according to claim 16, further comprising means for receiving said license from an entity connected to a content server which distributed said watercrypted content, said entity storing said client identifier and being configured to encrypt said product key with a public key of said secure device.
- 25. The apparatus according to claim 16, further comprising means for receiving said entitlement control message from a content server which distributed said watercrypted content.
- 26. An apparatus to provide secure key selection comprising:

 means for storing a license containing a product key of a watercrypted content and a client identifier from a decoder;

means for receiving an entitlement control message containing a plurality of content keys associated with said watercrypted content from said decoder, together with a request to provide a session content key from said plurality of content keys, said session content key to be used to decrypt said watercrypted content;

means for selecting said session content key using said product key and said client identifier from said license; and

means for transmitting said session content key to said decoder in response to said request.

- 27. The apparatus according to claim 26, wherein said license is encrypted with a personal public key to allow access to said license.
- 28. The apparatus according to claim 27, further comprising means for decrypting said license using said personal public key.
- 29. The apparatus according to claim 26, further comprising: means for receiving a transport key encrypted with a public key of said decoder; and means for encrypting said session content key with said transport key.
- 30. The apparatus according to claim 29, further comprising means for transmitting said session content key encrypted with said transport key to said decoder.

31. A computer readable medium containing executable instructions, which, when executed in a processing system, cause said processing system to perform a method to provide secure key selection comprising:

transmitting a license containing a product key of a watercrypted content and a client identifier to a secure device for storage;

transmitting an entitlement control message containing a plurality of content keys associated with said watercrypted content to said secure device, together with a request to provide a session content key from said plurality of content keys, said session content key to be used to decrypt said watercrypted content; and

receiving said session content key from said secure device in response to said request.

32. A computer readable medium containing executable instructions, which, when executed in a processing system, cause said processing system to perform a method to provide secure key selection comprising:

storing a license containing a product key of a watercrypted content and a client identifier from a decoder;

receiving an entitlement control message containing a plurality of content keys associated with said watercrypted content from said decoder, together with a request to provide a session content key from said plurality of content keys, said session content key to be used to decrypt said watercrypted content;

selecting said session content key using said product key and said client identifier from said license; and

transmitting said session content key to said decoder in response to said request.

33. An apparatus to provide secure key selection comprising:a decoder; and

a secure device coupled to said decoder to store a license sent from said decoder, said license containing a product key of a watercrypted content and a client identifier, to receive an entitlement control message containing a plurality of content keys associated with said watercrypted content from said decoder, together with a request to provide a session content key from said plurality of content keys, said session content key to be used to decrypt said watercrypted content, to select said session content key using said product key and said client identifier from said license, and to transmit said session content key to said decoder in response to said request.

- 34. The apparatus according to claim 33, wherein said license is encrypted with a public key of said secure device to allow said secure device to access said license.
- 35. The apparatus according to claim 33, wherein said license is encrypted with a secret key of said secure device to allow said secure device to access said license
- 36. The apparatus according to claim 33, wherein said decoder further establishes a secure channel to communicate securely with said secure device.
- 37. The apparatus according to claim 36, wherein, in establishing said secure channel, said decoder further encrypts a transport key with a decoder public key and transmits said transport key to said secure device.

- 38. The apparatus according to claim 37, wherein said decoder further receives said session content key encrypted with said transport key and decrypts said session content key to be used in decrypting said watercrypted content.
- 39. The apparatus according to claim 33, wherein said secure device is a smart card device.
- 40. The apparatus according to claim 33, wherein said decoder further receives said license from a content server, which distributed said watercrypted content.
- 41. The apparatus according to claim 33, wherein said decoder further receives said license from an entity connected to a content server which distributed said watercrypted content, said entity storing said client identifier and being configured to encrypt said product key with a public key of said secure device.
- 42. The apparatus according to claim 33, wherein said decoder further receives said entitlement control message from a content server, which distributed said watercrypted content.
- 43. The apparatus according to claim 34, wherein said secure device further decrypts said license using said public key.

- 44. The apparatus according to claim 33, wherein said secure device further receives a transport key encrypted with a decoder public key of said decoder and encrypts said session content key with said transport key.
- 45. The apparatus according to claim 44, wherein said secure device further transmits said session content key encrypted with said transport key to said decoder.